

Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting – June 8, 2020

Members Present: Phil Wedekind and Tom Kolb, and Mike Plautz. **Others Present:** Kennie Downing, Mike Palm, Mark Schauf, Kevin Stieve, Emily Truman, Tom Pinion, Wade Peterson, Tony Gilman, and Kris Jackson.

Call to Order - Committee Chairman Phil Wedekind called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. at Baraboo City Service Center. Compliance with the Open Meeting Law was noted. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- a. Discussion and possible recommendation to Common Council to adopt an Ordinance prohibiting vaping in all locations where smoking is currently prohibited in the City of Baraboo – Mayor Palm said earlier this year there was an initiative that was put on by SSM Health talking about vaping and what it is doing to our youth in particular. He said it was talking about the idea of adjoining municipalities taking a stronger position on vaping than perhaps the City was, yet smoking is not allowed in any City parks or City buildings. He said the question that came up, as part of the symposium was if the City would consider prohibiting vaping in any circumstance that smoking would be prohibited. He said that both smoking and vaping are a delivery system for nicotine. He did say that this is harder to police because the vapor is gone. Chief Schauf he has worked with the City Attorney to try to put language in the ordinance that would make it a little easier to police. He said that it is very difficult for the department in a municipal ordinance violation to be able to regulate this as tight as traditional smoking. He said that there is not the smell with vaping. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to send the draft Ordinance to the Council with a positive recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Consider Proposed Amendment to existing License Agreement with US Cellular for the CTH A Water Tower Site – Peterson presented background to Committee. He said US is looking to upgrade equipment on the tower. He said they have a structural plan of what they have proposed, and the City has had a third party structural team look at the proposal. He said that an agreement has been made with changes to the language and a small monetary increase to the annual monies received from them. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to approve the proposed amendment to the License Agreement with U.S. Cellular for the CTH A Water Tower Site. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Review and recommend approval of the WWTP's 2019 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report – Peterson said as usual the Department received many great grades; however, this year a C was received in bio solids. He praised his employees for a great job done. It was moved by Plautz, seconded by Kolb to approve the WWTP's 2019 Compliance maintenance Annual Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Consider including new Street Lights as part of the WDOT's STH 33 (8th St/Ave) Reconstruction Project – Pinion said STH 33 is slated to be reconstructed in 2024. He said they are 30% in the planning design, and now is the time for input as to whether the City would like to put in new streetlights as part of this project. He said there are several options, try to match the lights on South Blvd., the type Alliant puts in which are wood poles and their fixtures and the City would rent them, or we could put up City owned lights. He said that the only City owned lights currently are the downtown historic lights, the red light posts on the former Highway 12 from the Baraboo River Bridge, south to Menards, and South Blvd. He said the poles on South Blvd. and former Highway 12 are poles that are more decorative. He said if the City went with the standard DOT, aluminum poles with the trombone arms and LED fixtures, the State would split the cost 50/50. He said the preliminary cost estimate is \$600,000. Pinion said if the City would prefer decorative lighting, similar to the lights on South Blvd., the DOT would only contribute 50% of what standard street lights cost and the City would be responsible for the balance. He said that Alliant only offers two types of poles, wood or concrete. Pinion said the difference comes down to financing. He said if the City is interested in a bit more curb appeal, especially on that corridor, he feels that the aluminum poles are a lot better than the wood or concrete poles that Alliant offers. Kolb asked if the cable would be underground. Pinion said it would be the City-owned cable connecting these streetlights. He said he could not guarantee that adding new streetlights would force those existing overhead utilities underground. Plautz moved, Kolb seconded to proceed with the DOT standard aluminum poles with LED lights included in the STH 33 reconstruction project. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. STH 33 Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Levy Special Assessments for Sanitary Sewer Lateral Replacement in the right-of-way as part of the WDOT's STH 33 Reconstruction Project – Pinion said this is part of the STH 33 Reconstruction Project to avoid having to dig up the road in the near future after construction. He said the City is considering lining some sections of sewer and replacing others. He said that the laterals are the property owners responsibility and normally would not replace those, and if they were replaced the cost would be assessed to the owner. He

said what is being considered since the contractor will be there and the road would be removed, it is the opportune time, both economically and physically to replace the laterals within the right-of-way to help preserve the integrity of the roadway. He said that the work needs to be confined to the right-o-way to avoid incurring another \$300,000 to \$400,000 in real estate costs. He said the City would give people two to three years notice that the expense is coming and provide an estimate of what it will cost and let them plan for that, but we would like to include that as part of the DOT project. He said that Peterson has some costs that he put together preliminary from a recent project elsewhere in Wisconsin that did the same thing. Peterson said that Stoddard just started a DOT project and their numbers for sanitary sewer lateral replacement was approximately \$1200 per property. He said that he checked with West Baraboo, they had a water main break by Culver's a month ago, and that repair was \$17,000. Therefore, if we do not do this and an owner's lateral would fail, they could easily be looking at a \$10,000 bill to do their repair. Kolb as the age of the laterals, Peterson said that 75% of them are 80 years plus. Kolb moved, Plautz seconded to move forward with the STH 33 Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Levy Special Assessments for Sanitary Sewer Lateral Replacement in the right-of-way as part of the WDOT's STH 33 Reconstruction Project. Motion carried unanimously.

- f. Review and approval of monthly Billing Adjustment/Credits for Sewer and Water Customers for April and May 2020 – Peterson presented the Adjustments/Credits. Kolb moved, Plautz seconded to approve the monthly Billing Adjustment/Credits for Sewer and Water Customers for April and May 2020 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- a. **Utility Superintendent's Report**
- i. Staffing updates – Peterson said that the billing technician position has been filled and the new person starts next week. He said that Bill Clary joined us to fill the water position. He came over from the Village of West Baraboo.
 - ii. Project updates – Peterson said that the river project ran into some issues, but now is complete, except for some landscaping. He said the Oak Street Booster Station has started; however, some of the electrical equipment has been delayed due to COVID19. He said the department is continuing to do a few smaller lead services. He said Mound Street would soak up the remainder of the funds available. He said there is a rumor that will be some more funds available in 2021 and he will apply with the State this fall. He said that sewer jetting is going very well. He said the contractor for slip-lining sewers has already been here and completed their project. He said that about 2,500' of sewer mains were slip-lined in the Victory Heights subdivision. Peterson said bio solids spreading went great. He said the department is down on water production due to Covid-19. LSC Communications has filed for Chapter 11 and has not paid their first quarter bill (roughly \$90,000). He said there is also one larger apartment complex that has not paid their first quarter bill. He said that PSC has suspended all late fees and disconnections due to COVID19; therefore, year-to-date the Utility is down \$28,343,000 gallons or 12% in water production. He has seen LSC usage start to increase.
- b. **Street Superintendent's Report**
- i. Staffing updates – No new staffing to report.
 - ii. Equipment Updates - Gilman said that the Air Curtin Destructor was sold to a contractor up in St. Germain area for \$35,500.
 - iii. Monthly Report on Public Works Department activities – Gilman said that the activities report in the packet and he does not want to be redundant.
 - iv. Project updates – Gilman said the department has some intersection work coming up on Elizabeth and 10th will be replaced, some repairs on 8th Street will be done, 2nd Avenue and Morre, and Russell and Badger.
- c. **Police Chief's Report**
- i. Staffing Updates – Schauf said that there is one officer in field training, coming from the Sun Prairie area. He said there are two vacancies, one investigator, and one patrol position. He said that with school being out the department was able to use the school resource officers in patrol positions. He said the Department is currently running a hiring process.

- ii. Case/Response Update – Schauf said that the department is seeing an increase in mental case investigations and committals. Schauf said that the department continues to do all their COVID responses, as far as sanitizing cars, social distancing, and officers are still taking their temperatures before the start of their shift, and staying healthy. He said three members of the Department participated with the Sauk County Emergency Response Team in Madison. He said those officers had specialized federal training in crowd control.
- d. Fire Chief's Report
 - i. Update on Implementation of Fire Department Operations Study Recommendations – Stieve said that during the COVID19 some policies and procedures were released. He said that an agenda item on the Council is one of those recommendations as far as working with EMS.
 - ii. Update on proposed Fire Department Remodeling project – He said he is working with some architects to get some plans in place.
 - iii. Staffing Updates – Stieve said there was one resignation at the end of May due to moving out of the area. He said the department has to do heavy duty recruiting through this special time we are in. He said that they resumed their training face-to-face last Monday night. He said they try to social distance; however, sometimes it does not work out that way.

AJOURNMENT – It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to adjourn at 1:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Wedekind, Chairman